

Fall 2015 Hikes and Happenings

DCR Boston Region Sites

- Stony Brook Reservation
- Brook Farm Historic Site
- Chestnut Hill Reservation
- Hammond Pond Reservation
- Hancock Woods Reservation
- Hemlock Gorge Reservation
- Neponset River Reservation
- Charles River Reservation
- Mystic River Reservation
- Beaver Brook Reservation



- Quincy Shores Reservation
- Dorchester Shores Reservation
- Alewife Brook Reservation
- Melnea Cass Recreation Complex
- Roxbury Heritage Park
- Southwest Corridor Park
- South Boston Beaches
- Dorothy Quincy Homestead
- Castle Island
- Camp Meigs

**Labor Day Weekend, September 5, 6 & 7 and Sundays, September 13, 20, 27,
October 4 and October 10, 11 and 12 of Columbus Day Weekend 12:00 pm - 3:30 pm**

Fort Independence Tours at DCR Castle Island, South Boston

Castle Island and Fort Independence are located at the end of Day Boulevard in South Boston.

www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-boston/castle-island-pleasure-bay-m-street-and-carson-beach.html

Castle Island is the oldest continuously fortified site in British North America! The first fort on Castle Island was built in 1634 for the coastal defense of Boston. Fort Independence, a pentagonal five-bastioned fort built between 1834 and 1851, is Castle Island's 8th fort and was built with granite from the quarries in Rockport, MA. Free one-hour tours of Fort Independence are sponsored by the Castle Island Association in partnership with the DCR. Call the "CIA" at 617-268-8870 for updates.

Saturday, September 12 and October 3 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Dorothy Quincy Homestead Open House

The Dorothy Quincy Homestead is located at the intersection of Hancock Street

and Butler Street in Quincy. For more info, visit http://www.nscda.org/ma/quincy_homestead.php

A National Historic Landmark, the Quincy Homestead is significant for its role in early American history, for its architecture, and for its Quincy family association. In addition to the architecture and furnishings, docents share stories of the Quincy family during the colonial era. The tours are free. Donations welcome. This small DCR park can be accessed through the driveway gate.

Saturday, September 19 10:00 am – 11:00 am

Explore Beaver Brook Reservation

Meet at the Mill Street roadside parking lot, uphill from the Beaver Brook Park Headquarters located

at 66 Mill Street in Belmont. <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-boston/beaver-brook-reservation.html>

Beaver Brook Reservation was the first reservation established by the Metropolitan Parks Commission (now DCR) in 1893. Find out what's so special about Beaver Brook on a scenic 1 hour stroll. Ponds, fields, marsh and a cascading waterfall make for a delightful fall walk as we explore history and nature at Beaver Brook.

Saturday, October 3 8:30 am - 1:00 pm

Neponset River Clean-up

Meet at 8:30 am at the Martini Shell parking lot at 1015 Truman Parkway in Hyde Park. Parking is limited.

Carpooling encouraged. Pre-registration requested. Call or email Kristina LaFrance at lafrance@neponset.org or phone 781-575-0354, or visit www.neponset.org/cleanup to register.

Join local volunteers and the Neponset River Watershed Association to cleanup the Neponset River and promote the river's use as a recreational resource. Wear a hat, sunblock, work gloves, appropriate close-toed footwear (no flip-flops!) and work clothes to get dirty. Water and snacks provided. Ages 15 and up.

Saturday and Sunday, October 17 & 18

51st Head of the Charles Regatta

Spectator viewing available from various locations along the Charles River in Cambridge.

Visit <http://www.hocr.org/> or call 617-868-6200 for more details.

Since 1965, the world's best crew teams have come from near and far to take part in the largest 2 day Rowing Regatta. Join the crowd and enjoy a wonderful spectator event. If you are looking for a relaxed setting that boasts spectacular views, check out the Eliot Bridge. Or visit the Rowing and Fitness Expo at the finish line to test out a rowing machine. Public transportation encouraged.

Maps and details available at <http://www.hocr.org/>.



Tuesday, October 20

5:30 pm registration, 6:00 pm float

14th Annual Pumpkin Float at DCR Pope John Paul II Park

Meet at Pope John Paul II Park in Dorchester at the Hallet Street entrance.

www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-boston/pope-john-paul-ii-park-reservation.html

Join this Neponset family tradition! Bring your **hollow carved** pumpkin and join the floating parade of illuminated jack-o-lanterns down Davenport Creek to the Neponset River. Halloween costumes encouraged! Pumpkins can be no larger than 8 inches, or they won't float. Each jack-o-lantern will have a candle inserted on site and lit before being launched, en masse, in the water. Floats and candles will be provided. At the end of the event, pumpkins are collected for compost and used in Boston gardens. No registration necessary. Event check-in at Hallet Street entrance to the park. Presented by MA DCR and co-sponsored by the Trustees.

Saturday & Sunday, October 24 & 25

12:00 - 4:00 pm

Children's Magical Halloween Castle at DCR Castle Island, South Boston

Castle Island and Fort Independence are located at the end of Day Boulevard in South Boston.

www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-boston/castle-island-pleasure-bay-m-street-and-carson-beach.html

Join this annual family event at "The Castle" in South Boston. Fort Independence transforms into a slightly spooky, but family friendly magical mystery castle. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Costumes encouraged! Sponsored by the Castle Island Association in partnership with the Department of Conservation and Recreation. Visit www.bostonfortindependence.com or call 617-268-8870 for the latest info.



Things to know before you go

- **ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE!**
- Carry drinking water, wear sturdy footwear and dress in layers for maximum comfort
- If weather conditions are questionable, please call the reservation headquarters on the day of the program at 617-333-7404, extension 104 for updates.
- Reasonable accommodations available. For accessibility concerns, please email Maggi.Brown@state.ma.us

If you would like to receive this brochure via e-mail, please send an e-mail request with "Subscribe" in the subject line to: Maggi.Brown@state.ma.us or to unsubscribe, write "Unsubscribe" as the subject line

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